



Express Mail Label No.: EL844531826US
Date of Deposit: February 11, 2002

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.: H0535/7012/ERG/MAT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Howard Green, et al.
Serial No: 09/620,783
Filed: July 21, 2000
For: LINKAGE OF AGENTS USING MICROPARTICLES
Examiner: D. Naff
Art Unit: 1651

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

This is in response to the Office Action (Paper Number 8) mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on August 10, 2001. A three month extension of time is respectfully requested and the required fee is submitted herewith.

In the Specification

Please re-write the specification as indicated below. A marked-up copy of the amended specification is attached hereto as Appendix A.

Please re-write the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 30 as follows:

B1
In certain embodiments, the active agent is selected from the group consisting of a cosmetic agent, a bulking agent, a hair conditioning agent, a hair fixative, a sunscreen agent, a moisturizing agent, a depilatory agent, an anti-nerve gas agent, a film forming agent, a vitamin, an insect repellent, a coloring agent, a pharmaceutical agent, a ligand-receptor complex and a receptor of a ligand-receptor complex. In one embodiment, the active agent comprised within the microparticle is not itself a substrate of transglutaminase. In another embodiment, the active agent is a non-protein active agent. In yet another embodiment, the active agent is a non-nucleic acid active agent.

Please re-write the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 14 as follows:

B2
Encapsulated microspheres made from poly(lactide-co-glycolide) and poly(ϵ -CBZ-L-lysine) and subsequently treated so as to expose surface reactive amino groups have been reported previously. (Zheng

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